

THE

Capitol NEWS



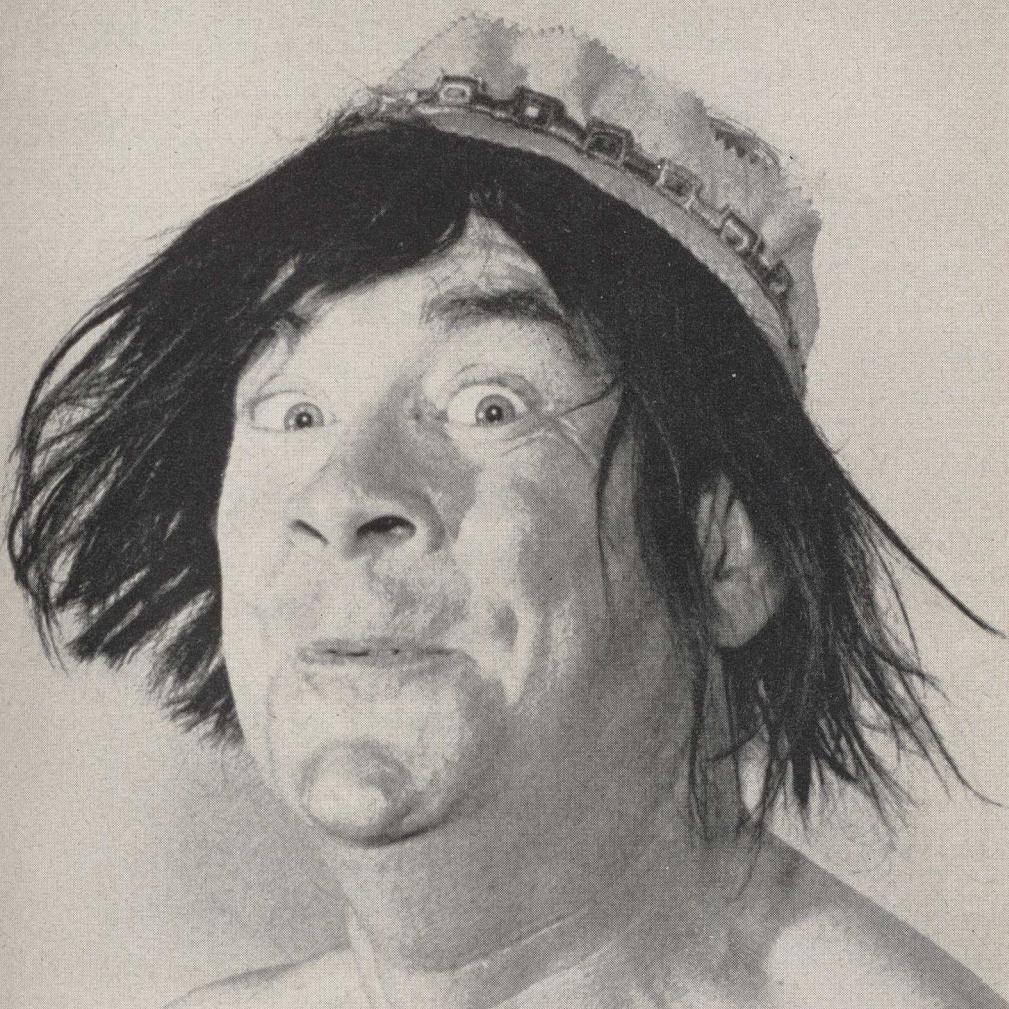
REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

FROM HOLLYWOOD

VOL. 5, NO. 10

52

OCTOBER, 1947



CHIEF INGLE

He Leads the "Natural Seven"

THE



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DAVE DEXTER'S surface noise

EDITED BY DAVE DEXTER, JR.

At Deadline

Because his recent engagement racked up the biggest grosses in history, Louis Armstrong will return to Billy Berg's on Christmas Eve for another—and longer—engagement.

On his recent run, Satchmo' featured Jack Teagarden, Barney Bigard, Big Sid Catlett, Morty Corb (bass) and Dick Carey (piano) in the six-piece combo that revived memories, among many musicians and record collectors, of the old Armstrong "Hot Five" and "Hot Seven" small combos of the 1920's. There will probably be a change or two in the lineup when Armstrong returns to Berg's in December, but the group will remain a small, hot aggregation. No written arrangements are used.

Nellie Lutcher, now in New York at Downtown Cafe Society, also was featured at Berg's during most of Armstrong's recent record-mashing run. Berg gives her credit for assisting in pulverizing all previous attendance marks.

Armstrong and his band, and Nellie Lutcher, were co-featured at Gene Norman's highly successful Sept. 9 "Just Jazz" concert at the Pasadena Civic Auditorium. Eddie Miller, on tenor, and Joe Rushton, bass sax, joined the Armstrong outfit for the concert only.

Ory For Satchmo' At Billy Berg's

One of the true pioneers of jazz, Edward (Kid) Ory, is currently tackling one of the most important tests in his long career. Along with the Mills brothers, Ory and his New Orleans band on Sept. 11 found themselves in the difficult position of following Louie Armstrong's band and Nellie Lutcher as attractions at Billy Berg's Hollywood boite.

Ory is using seven men, most of them vet jazzmen like himself. Famed throughout the world for his trombone playing, Ory also is the composer of the venerable "Muskrat Ramble" classic which Eddie Miller's Dixie band just recorded for Capitol's red Americana label.

Russell, Tilton Will Play U.S. Theaters

Teaming together for the first time, in theaters, Andy Russell and Martha Tilton will strike out from Hollywood this month on the first leg of a long tour of theaters which will keep them busy until their return to the west coast Dec. 12.

Russell, who has been touring in Old Mexico, and Tilton, who was co-featured with Andy all summer on the Lucky Strike Hit Parade airer, open in San Francisco on Oct. 15. Two weeks later they go into the Chicago Oriental. Houses in Newark, Baltimore, Boston, Akron, Youngstown, Indianapolis and Cleveland will follow.

The Pied Pipers are also planning a fall theater tour, opening Oct. 1 at the Golden Gate in San Francisco.



BILLY BUTTERFIELD'S brunet chanteuse, Pat O'Connor, stares at the mike on the band's recent N. Y. needling session which also marked the vocal debut, with Billy's crew, of Tommy Taylor. The rotund trumpet-leader is going great guns on eastern locations.

Hawaii Next For 7 Jazzmen

Seven California musicians expect to have a ball in the Hawaiian Islands starting Oct. 18.

Under the leadership of Cee Pee Johnson, drummer and leader of west coast renown, the toolters on that day will launch a tour starting in Honolulu which they believe will keep them busy for three months. According to Johnson, such highly regarded sidemen as Gerald Wilson, trumpet; Irving Ashby, guitar, and George (Red) Callender, bass, will make the trip.

Also sailing this month will be Arthur Dennis, alto and baritone saxist; Ralph Bledsoe, trombone, and Warren Bracker, piano. Johnson said his band was being guaranteed \$1500 per week with "at least 12 weeks assured, plus expenses to and from Hawaii."

Garber Due At Biltmore Oct. 9

After one of the longest runs on record at the Hotel Biltmore in Los Angeles, Russ Morgan will check in favor of Jan Garber's music starting Oct. 9.

Morgan, a Pennsylvania miner who climbed to fame with a wah-wah trombone, will have wound up 75 consecutive weeks at the hostelry, according to Joe Faber of the Biltmore. Garber, who has played the room previously, is signed until Dec. 3.



SIGNS FOR WAX . . . Kay Starr, Oklahoma-born and Tennessee-reared vocalist who is creating wide attention on the west coast as a single act, will be regularly featured on Cap needlings starting in late October. She just signed a long-term contract. Dave Cavanaugh will conduct the orchestra behind her.

Vic Dickenson's Ork In Debut

Newest band to be formed in Los Angeles is that led by Vic Dickenson, who for two decades has himself been featured with many of the nation's best dance crews.

Dickenson, one of the great trombone virtuosi of all time, just opened with his spanking new 7-man combo at the Down Beat Club on Central avenue and 42nd street in Los Angeles. It is a noted "hot" spot. Vic's most recent record is with Julia Lee on Capitol; on the "I Was Wrong" slow blues side he is featured among Julia's Boy Friends.

JOHNNY MERCER

His Sugar used to be
'So Refined'
but now
he's shouting the

'Sugar'
With Paul Weston

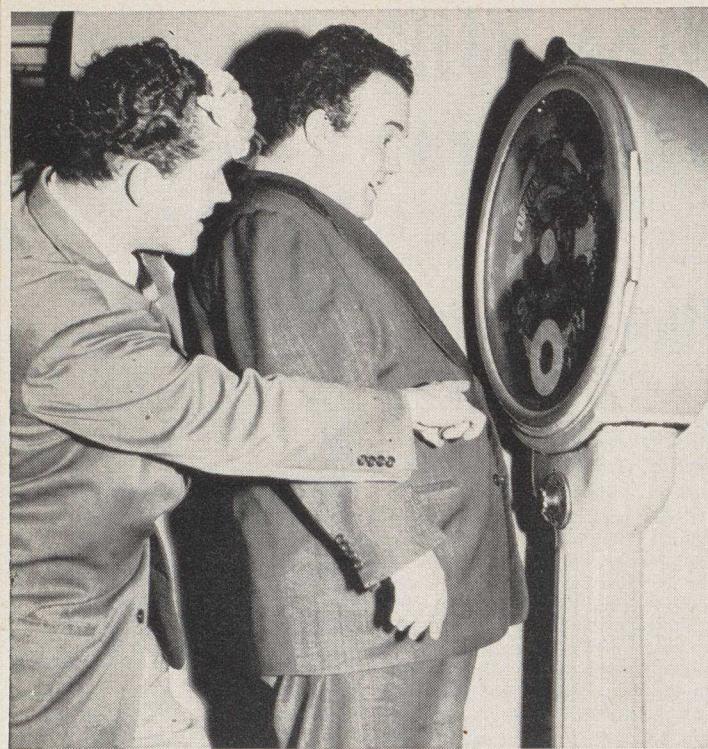
Capitol
RECORDS
REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.
No. B-448



BLUES'

And His Orchestra

Flipover:
"WHY SHOULD I
CRY OVER YOU?"
WITH THE PIED PIPERS
and Paul Weston
And His Orchestra



vine street gab

AFTER SPENDING untold thousands on advance publicity, Sam Goldwyn switched the title of his "That's Life" movie to "A Song Is Born." Danny Kaye and Virginia Mayo are the stars, but music fans will probably be lured by such names as Benny Goodman, who has a real "acting" role as a college prof; Lionel Hampton, Louis Armstrong, Tommy Dorsey, Charlie Barnet, Benny Carter, Phil Moore, Zutty Singleton, Harry Babasin, the Page Cavanaugh Trio, the Golden Gate Quartet, Buck and Bubbles and others widely known in pop music circles.

The picture, just completed, marks Kaye's last role for Goldwyn. His future films will be for the brothers Warner. Howard Hawks directed "A Song Is Born" and Sonny Burke served as technical adviser.

Although Dick Haymes claims he will not appear in them, he and Bill Burton are planning to produce two movies soon. Burton, Dick's manager, discloses that one is a romance and the other a "mobster" story. Haymes, meanwhile, is kept fairly busy making "Up In Central Park" at Universal-International Studios and airing his own "Autolite" program. For their new cinema venture, Haymes and Burton have formed a separate partnership.

Heinz Roemheld and Arthur Morton were paired at Columbia to compose the score for "It Had to Be You," the Ginger Rogers-Cornel Wilde co-starring romantic comedy which was produced and directed by Don Hartman.

King Cole Trio's radio sponsor, Wildroot, upped the group's Saturday salary another \$250 and picked up option for another 13 weeks. Program is heard from wherever the trio happens to be playing. On NBC.

Les Parker's Quintet, with Monica Whalen as chirp, set at Hollywood Plaza Hotel through October. Group comprises piano, clary, drums and bass.

Old-time New Orleans pianist, Dink Johnson, beats the keyboard nightly at his own "Dink's Place" at 42nd and Avalon in Los Angeles.

Red Nichols back in town and relaxing before starting heavy fall radio season.

Frankie Carle Off After Movie 'Solo'

Winding up his solo appearance in Columbia's "Mary Lou" film, following his run, with his band, at the Palladium, Frankie Carle was to train out from Hollywood in late September for a series of one-nighters which will find his orchestra playing in York, Neb., the night of Oct. 2. On Oct. 10, Carle's music will be featured on the stage of the Chicago Theater. The engagement is for two weeks.

On Nov. 14, after playing theaters in Wisconsin and Ohio, Frankie moves into the New York Strand. While in Hollywood this trip, he and his band also made a musical short. His work in "Mary Lou," however, was strictly as a solo pianist.

His lyrics rock 'em out of the saddle!

TEX WILLIAMS
And His Western Caravan

'SMOKE! SMOKE! (THAT CIGARETTE)'
Vocal by Tex Williams and Trio

'ROUNDUP POLKA'
Vocal by Tex Williams

Capitol RECORDS

Capitol Record No. 40001

'Crazy' Rhythm Section For Stan

Brazilian Guitar Bags Big Bravos

Back in business with many new ideas and an enthusiasm that is infectious, Stan Kenton and his musicians—with June Christy on deck as vocalist—swung into action again Sept. 26 at Balboa Beach, Cal., playing the same ballroom Kenton played in 1941 when he made his debut as a maestro.

The month of October finds Kenton's "Artistry in Rhythm" performing 25 one-nighters, starting Oct. 1 in Vallejo and ending Oct. 31 in Hutchinson, Kan.

Brazilian Guitarist Joins

Most unusual development in the revamped Kenton krew is within the rhythm section. Stan is now featuring a fantastic Brazilian guitarist, Laurindo Almeida, whose style is vastly different from the prevailing gitbox giants. A Sevilia disciple, Almeida's incredible technique is unlike that of any other guitarist with a dance band. And in addition to Shelly Manne on drums Stan is featuring Joe Constanza on the bongo drums. Constanza's hand-pounding gives the band a "different" sound. He and Almeida will be regularly featured with the band.

The only new face in the sax section is that of George Weidler, former Les Brownman, now holding down the first alto chair. Vido Musso and Bob Cooper, tenors; Boots Mussulli, alto, and Bob Gioga, baritone, round out the reed team.

Porcina New Trumpeter

Likewise, Al Porcina is the only new member of the brilliant, cutting trumpet quintet. He's a "high note" specialist and was featured with Woody Herman and Gene Krupa before joining the Kenton combo. Eddie Berg, at one time a Red Norvo star, is new in the trombone section and one tram chair is still to be filled. The other slide artists include Bart Varsalona, Milt Bernhardt and Harry Forbes.

Rounding out the new Kenton lineup are Eddie Safranski on bass, Manne on drums and the popular Christy, who will remain with Stan for at least six months before cutting out to do a single again.

Will Play For Gene Norman

On Oct. 21, the band will play its first Los Angeles engagement as the feature of Gene Norman's fifth "Just Jazz" concert in the Pasadena Civic Auditorium. Norman, who pilots platters on Stations KECA, KMPC and KFWB in the City of Angels, expects a sell-out audience.



PEGGY LEE was one of the first to congratulate Glenn E. Wallichs, right, with the announcement that he has moved up from a vice-prexy position to president of Capitol Records, Inc. Johnny Mercer, left, who for three years served as the waxworks' chief, remains on the Board of Directors. Wallichs, Mercer and B. G. (Buddy) DeSylva founded Capitol five years ago and immediately pushed it into the "Big Four" of the industry.

Glenn E. Wallichs Elected President Of Capitol Waxworks

Moving up from the vice-prexy position he has held for several years, Glenn E. Wallichs was elected president of Capitol Records, Inc., at a meeting of the company's board of directors on Sept. 8 in Hollywood.

Johnny Mercer, former president, will retain his chair as a member of the board. Tremendous pressure from his activities as one of the world's top songwriters and singers—and his plans to help stage a forthcoming Broadway musical necessitated Mercer's resigning the presidential post. He will remain active with Capitol, however, as one of the most prominent and popular singers on the Capitol label. B. G. (Buddy) DeSylva, former chairman of Capitol's board, also resigned his position at the meeting.

Rugolo Still Chief Arranger

Stan intends to take the band on the road this month as far north as Vancouver before sitting down in a recording studio and making masters. "That way," he says, "we get everything—all of our new material—perfected. We also can tell how good it is by the reaction we get from it on one-night stands. If some of our new stuff doesn't go over with dancers as we hope it will, we will know that there's not much sense in recording it."

Pronounced as "completely recovered" by his physician, Stan says he feels better than he has in 10 years. For many weeks, during August and September, he and his chief arranger Pete Rugolo worked daily at Capitol's Hollywood offices preparing new arrangements and planning the revamped personnel.

Kenton will not have a personal masseur on the road with him this time, he said. He's in such excellent shape, he says, that he will probably massage the boys in his band himself.

don't miss it!

GORDON MacRAE
with PAUL WESTON
and His Orchestra

a new star!

'A Fellow Needs a Girl'
from the musical "Allegro"

'Body and Soul'
from the musical "Three's a Crowd"

Capitol RECORDS

Capitol Record No. B-463

Woody Herman Excited Over His New Band

"The new Herman band will have five saxophones, four trumpets and four trombones. There will be no vocal group. We'll have a girl singer who hasn't yet been selected and we'll do our best to take up right where we left off last December."

That's Woody Herman talking. Right now he's busy rehearsing his new band, which he decided to organize suddenly last month after his Sunday CBS summer airshow with Peggy Lee ended. One of the first men set for the new Herman herd was Ernie Royal, formerly with Lionel Hampton, who is at-



LARK FOR CLARK . . . Chicago Jockey Dave Garroway of the "1160 Club" announced last month that Clark Dennis, singer famed for his "Peg O' My Heart" etching, was looking for a real lark as a mascot. It sounds pretty silly, but Stanley Sitta of Berwyn, Ill., captured one and gave them the bird. Garroway, Clark and the lark are pictured here. Dennis later left Chicago, lark in hand, for an engagement at the New York Copacabana.

"Fresh Blood" Desired
Herman is the new number one attraction with the newly-formed Continental Artists office headed by three former Herman road managers, Jack Archer, Milt Deutsch and Abe Turchen. In joining the CA fold, Woody fluffed off lush offers from MCA, GAC and Wm. Morris. Also under contract to Continental, already, are Miguelito Valdes and Noro Morales. Joe Alexander, rising young baritone, also was about to sign as this issue went to press.

Herman's new outfit will feature



RESUMES AS MAESTRO . . .
Woody Herman, Milwaukee's gift to Musicdom, is back on the boards again with a jumping dance band.

four trombones for the first time. The style of the band will be "modern," according to Woody, and not necessarily like the band that broke up last Christmas. "We will have things like 'Northwest Passage' and 'Bijou' in the books," Woody said, "but we also will have a lot of new things that start where the others left off. It is possible that Bill Harris and Flip Phillips will return in early 1948. But virtually all the sidemen will be new. I think that we can achieve more originality, spontaneity and enthusiasm with fresh blood."

Woody, of course, will handle most of the vocals and front the crew with his clarinet and alto sax.

Armstrong Blast At Bebop Creates West Coast Furore

LOUIS ARMSTRONG left California music circles in an uproar in mid-September when he departed, with his band, to play a Chicago engagement. The controversy, with the veteran Satchmo' smack in the middle, started when Time mag published an interview with Armstrong which quoted him, emphatically, on the subject of rebop, bebop and sundry other forms of so-called "progressive" music.

First Heard It in 1918

The interview, obtained by crack newsman Dwight Whitney, ran like this:

"Take them rebop boys," Armstrong quoted. "They're great technicians. Mistakes—that's all rebop is. Man, you've gotta be a technician to know when you make 'em . . . New York and 52nd street—that's what messed up jazz. Them cats play too much music—a whole lot of notes, weird notes . . . That don't mean nothing . . . You've got to carry a melody."

"Some cats say Old Satch is old-fashioned, not modern enough. Why, man, most of that modern music I first heard in 1918. Ain't no music out of date as long as you play it perfect . . . You give me the music, I'll figure out what to do with it."

Armstrong, who down through the decades has never been known to criticize another musician or his manner of playing, had been breaking attendance marks—with the help of the red-hot Nellie Lutcher—at Billy Berg's Hollywood bistro (see page 2). Here are the comments by widely known musicians:

STAN KENTON: "I agree with Louis when he touches on the inconsistency of bebop. There are a lot of musicians trying to play it and getting away with murder. I think that bebop is not the new music, by any means, but that it will definitely leave its mark on the jazz of tomorrow. One thing it is doing is educating the people's ears to unusual sounds that they certainly will have to become accustomed to eventually."

WOODY HERMAN: "Armstrong is unquestionably one of the greatest exponents of American jazz. I am sure, however, that he would not have played as wonderfully years ago and as he does now if he had kept his ears closed to what, in the old days, was considered 'progressive' music and 'new' ideas."



LASHES AT BOP . . . Louis Armstrong created a national controversy last month with his blunt and unvarnished appraisal of bebop jazz. What other renowned musicians think of Armstrong's views is summarized in the story at left. Louie, regarded by many as the greatest trumpeter of all time, returns to Hollywood in December for a repeat engagement at Billy Berg's.

PEGGY LEE: "I am inclined to agree with Louis, especially since hearing him play last month. To me, music is more emotional than technical. My technical knowledge is limited and therefore I probably am unable to appreciate bebop or rebop as some others with a greater knowledge of technique. However, I think progressive music is important and perhaps something will come, eventually, from all this bop stuff."

PHIL MOORE: "I am sure that many people feel that Louie was once a radical of music. In my opinion he is probably the greatest master of phrasing and giving a simple melody a pulsating, vibrant quality. But the great beboppers—and who can yet say which will be the greatest?—have still to fully ex-

plore all the melodic and polyrhythmic possibilities that fire their creative imaginations. Until these possibilities are explored I feel we have no right to either condemn or criticize young, creative minds endeavoring to express themselves."

RED NORVO: "Louie's opinions are very interesting. I certainly agree with some of his views but I would differ with him on other points. It's impossible to express yourself correctly in so few words."

JOHNNY MERCER: "I guess I would string along with Wingy Manone on this argument. He says that bop jazz is puzzle music. I'm not a good enough musician, though, to arbitrarily dismiss bebop completely. Maybe it has something."

FLETCHER HENDERSON: "Louie's views should be published by the millions and placed in the hands of every young musician and every music lover in the world. No truer—and more courageous words—were ever spoken. He's as right as Truth itself."

HORACE HENDERSON: "Quote me as backing Armstrong's views 100 per cent. Bebop should be stored away with C-Melody saxophones."

Several prominent musicians and singers asked that they not be quoted. And Armstrong, smiling as his bags were packed for the Chi train, declared he "hadn't anything else" to say about it. His band opened at the new Rag Doll Club in the Windy City on Sept. 15.

Bauduc to Catalina; Two New Men Join Up

Ray Bauduc moved from Hollywood to the Club Brazil on Catalina Island in mid-September with two new sidemen, Danny Kenyon on trumpet and Fritz Beck at the piano. Tino Isgo rounds down the tenor chair and Ward Irwin is on bass. Former Bauduc trumpeter Joe Graves went east with Charlie Barnet's band.



'THEM DURN FOOL THINGS'

("These Foolish Things Remind Me Of You")
Vocal By Mrs. Jaymes F. X. Paisley
And Red Ingle

'SONG OF INDIANS'

(Based On Rimsky-Korsakov's "Song Of India")
Vocal By Minnie Haw Haw And
Chief Red Ugh Ingle

CAPITOL RECORD No. B-451

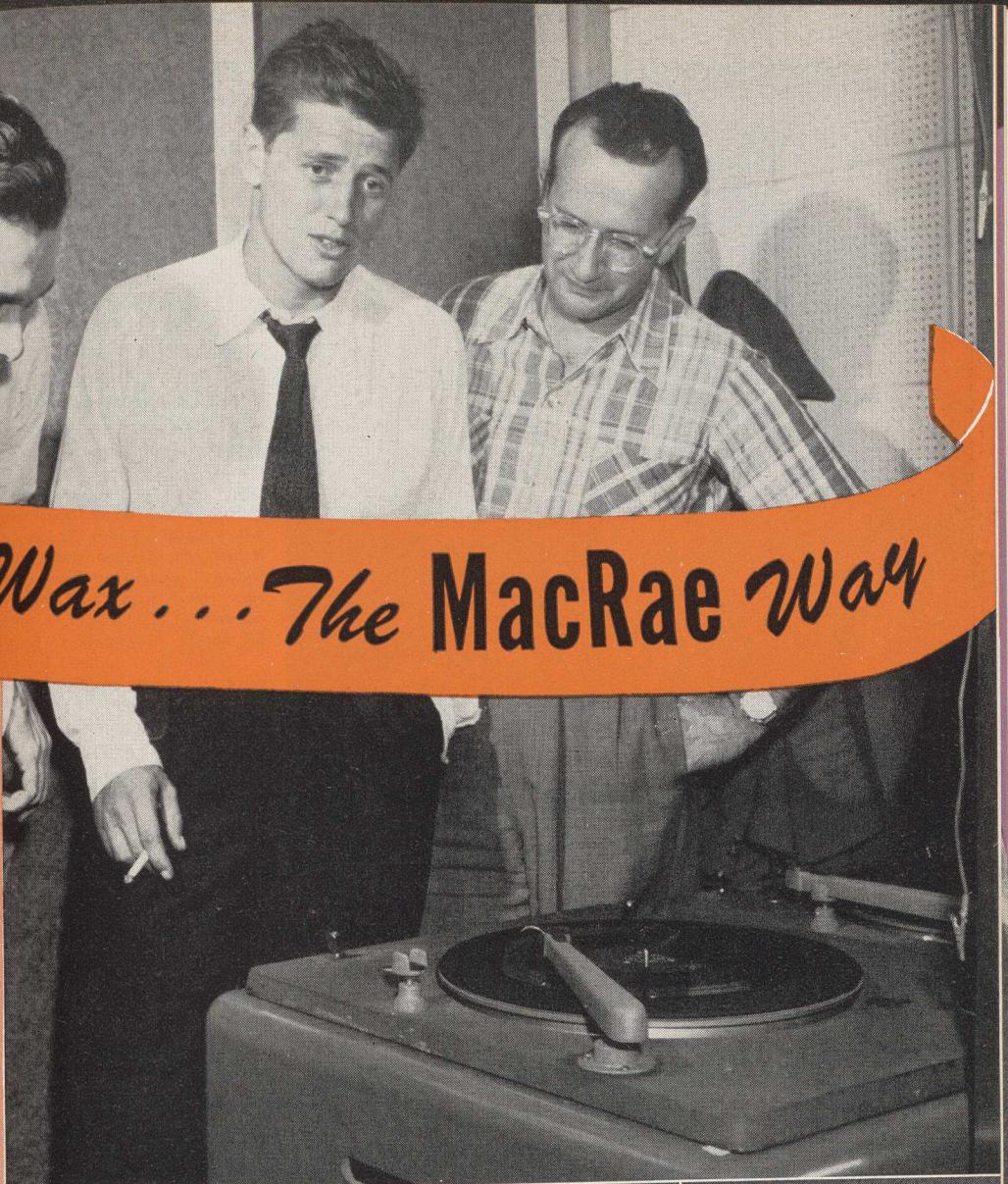




Slicing Wax... The MacRae Way

FOR A YOUNG GUY who plays pretty fair saxophone, piano and clarinet, Gordon MacRae also chants a pretty fair song. His big, virile baritone pipes are aired every week over three major networks covering 540 stations throughout the nation.

MacRae this month makes his debut, too, as a Capitol recording artist. On these pages he is shown slicing his first wax on a New York session last month supervised by Alan Livingston (above, left) at featuring tasteful instrumental backing by Paul Weston's orchestra. Weston, right above, is pictured with Gordie and Producer Livingston checking a "punchback" cutting. Below, MacRae is caught while singing "A Fellow Needs a Girl." Three other selections featuring his voice comprise "I Understand," "I Still Get Jealous" and the perennial "Body and Soul." Here's how he looks when the right goes on and the master starts whining.





NEW PORTRAIT . . . Instead of the usual "candid" photo, this new formal portrait of the King Cole Trio is presented just as Nat and his men (Oscar Moore and Johnny Miller) launch a series of "serious" concerts. You might also keep an ear open for a new etching by Nat which features him—on two sides—in vocal duets with Johnny Mercer. It's the first time they've recorded together.

5 Movies For These Guys; When Do They Hit The Sack?

Is this some sort of a record? The Page Cavanaugh Trio, within the last four months, appeared in five full-length movies for five different studios. And to top off their film work, the boys, (Cavanaugh at the piano, Al Viola, guitar, and Lloyd Pratt, bass) made a musical short, appeared every Sunday on Jack Paar's NBC program and held down a nitery job.

The films include "Record Party" for Universal-International, "Romance in High C" for Warners, MGM's "Brothers of the Eastside," Paramount's "Jingle, Jangle, Jingle" and Sam Goldwyn's "A Song Is Born." Now, according to Cavanaugh's mentor, Bullets Durgom, the trio will pack its luggage and head for New York soon.



Tex Williams And His Western Caravan

'THAT'S WHAT I LIKE ABOUT THE WEST'
Vocal By Tex Williams and Trio

'DOWNTOWN POKER CLUB'
Vocal by Tex Williams

CAPITOL RECORD
No. A-40031



It's Tex Williams, whose "Smoke! Smoke! Smoke!" is a sizzling success, and another "first" for Capitol.

'Chief' Ingle To Bag \$7500 In Theaters

(Photo on Front Cover)

With his first record tabbed by dealers as the biggest seller of the year, Red Ingle is this month preparing a road tour which will bring him \$7,500 a week in the nation's best theaters.

Ingle, who came up the hard way via a long stint as saxophonist and singer with Ted Weems, will take his Natural Seven on the road with a new girl vocalist, Karen Tedder, featured. It was Miss Tedder who sang "Song of Indians" under the name of "Minnie Haw Haw" with Chief Ingle on Red's current hit Cap platter, a follow-up to his earlier "Temptation" biscuit.

"Temptation" jumped Ingle's theater price from union scale to a figure which only a handful of America's big name dance bands command. And although residents of Toledo deny it, Chief Ingle was born in that Ohio town on a cold and dreary Nov. 7. He won't say which year.

The Wm. Morris office is setting the bookings. Ingle, meanwhile, has hatched up a batch of new novelties for records. He will cut 'em before taking to the road this month on a trek that will keep him, Miss Tedder and his boys away from California through most of the fall and winter seasons.

Meet the Jock!

BILL DEAN handles two daily shows on KBIX in Muskogee, Okla. For the past two weeks, however, he's been

missing. Seems that on Sept. 18 he hiked to Hollywood and married Madelon Black on ABC's "Bride and Groom" program. This month he will return with his bride to Muskogee to resume his "Turntable Terrace" and "Whistle and Smile" shows, which top all others on KBIX for mail pull. Bill averages about 700 letters weekly, a mighty pull for a 250-watt station.

Johnny White to Beach
Johnny White and his combo, the leader featured as vibes, opened at the Casion Gardens, Ocean Park, as intermission band. Frankie Masters is the feature attraction.

James Follows J. Dorsey At Pally Oct. 7

Cheered by the good showing of his (and Betty Grable's) stable of racing bangtails at the recent Del Mar meeting, Harry James will open at the Palladium on Oct. 7, the first time his band has played the spot in three years.

Harry has been concentrating on his band in recent months and is reportedly determined to build it back to the level it once was. Back in the days before he became a picture star, Harry had an aggregation that outjumped virtually every other band in the business.

Unlike many other maestri of the moment, the Texas trumpeter argues that jump music is more popular now than ever before. On his recent "in person" engagements his outfit has proved to be more exciting, musically, than any band Harry has fronted since the days when Dave Matthews, Jumbo Jack Gardner and Ralph Hawkins were listed among his sidemen.

Harry, no longer the slim, hungry-looking musician that he was in the days when his hot horn sparked Benny Goodman's brass team, also intends to produce his own motion picture soon. But just when his first epic will go into production hasn't been announced. Meanwhile, he is getting fatter and playing jazz again. His appearance at the Palladium will follow on the heels of Jimmy Dorsey's. Jimmy is the current attraction, having opened Sept. 2 for six weeks.

The Palladium bands air via CBS with Bill Ewing as announcer. Pee-Wee Hunt's little dixieland band plays for intermissions.

Valdes Orchestra Off To St. Louis

Back east again after a short stay in Hollywood last month went Miguelito Valdes and his band. Following an engagement at the Chase Hotel in St. Louis this month, the Cuban singer continues east for a November run at the Copacabana, New York. Valdes opened his own music publishing firm, Val Music, in late September in Gotham.

Ciro's Sets Cavallaro

Carmen Cavallaro's ork will return to Hollywood this winter for a Dec. 29 to Jan. 25 engagement at Ciro's on the Sunset Strip.



BOFFO AT BOCAGE . . . The Ernie Filice Quartet is drawing more than its share of small combo fans on its current engagement at Leonard Vannerson's smart Bocage Room in Hollywood. Ernie plays the accordion. Dick Anderson, clarinet; Larry Breen, bass; and Bobby Sandy, drums, produce a lot of music for four men. Sharing the stand with Filice are Jane Harvey and Derry Fallington, singers. Filice was featured for many months with Benny Goodman.

Al Hibbler Rejoins Ellington; Band Now At Meadowbrook

Duke Ellington, now playing weekends at the Meadowbrook in Culver City, sent a hurried call for help to his former vocalist, Al Hibbler, last month. And Hibbler wasted no time training west to rejoin the Ellington band as vocalist in time for its Meadowbrook engagement.

Hibbler had been out on the road, in the east, with Mercer Ellington's fledgling combo. In returning to the Duke's fold, he replaced Chester Crumpler.

The Meadowbrook, meanwhile, underwent a change in management when former "swing shift" promoter Harry Schooler purchased a one-third interest for a reported \$25,000. With his partners Joe Zucca and Harold Lewin, Schooler will assist with the management of the 'brook with particular emphasis on publicity and advertising. Until he bought into Meadowbrook, Schooler was manager of Tommy Dorsey's Casino Gardens, a rival ballroom. Eddie Gilmartin is the new Casino Gardens boss.



off the cuff

TWO OF jazzdom's greatest figures visited in Hollywood, briefly, in September. Fletcher and Horace Henderson for more than two decades have been hailed as extraordinary pianists, arrangers, conductors and composers. Fletcher, older of the two brothers, was here writing special scores for Benny Goodman. Horace, who now operates his own nity in Salt Lake City and who also leads his own five-piece combo in the spot, advised that his Sunday bashes at his own Dixieland Club in Salt Lake City attract a capacity audience of more than 400 Utahans every week. Duke Ellington, Benny Carter and other notables have dropped in on the Sabbath sessions in recent weeks and Horace is completing arrangements whereby he will fly a famous guest to the Utah city every Sunday for a one-day appearance at his club.

Featured in the Horace Henderson combo are Walter Leonard, tenor sax; Charles Johnson, trumpet; George Reed, drums and vocals, and Dick Jones, bass. Horace himself holds down the piano chair and emcees the proceedings.

Bill Millner, still rehearsing his unorthodox new dance band in Hollywood, announced that Anna Mae Fitzsimmons would handle vocals when the band lands its first location job. Millner, an alto saxist, emphasizes weird woodwinds.

Tommy Dorsey, now in the east, will play the N.Y. Capitol Theater for at least three weeks starting Dec. 24.

Abe Lyman's brother, Mike, recovering from critical illness. Abe hopes to form a new band this fall but is standing by pending Mike's complete recovery.

Franz Waxman has been assigned to compose the music score for Warners' "That Hagen Girl," which Peter Godfrey directed and Alex Gottlieb produced.

Cyril Mockridge has been set by 20th-Fox to compose the music for "Nightmare Alley," the William Lindsay Gresham novel about carnival life.



ON THE UPBEAT . . . Patsy Creighton's singing and dancing is leading her right into films. She's that rarity in show biz, a native Californian.

Replacing Davey Forrester as conductor of the 37-piece ork on Red Skelton's Tuesday night NBC show this fall is Dave Rose, who just wound his summer program, for a beer maker, with Georgia Gibbs.

Al Jarvis of KLAC currently claiming to be the first "television jock" now that he's featured three days a week over Hollywood's KTLA gabbing about and running off band "Soundies." Philco sponsors the series. Larry Finley set the deal.

Eddie Pripps has taken over as musical director of the Spike Jones crew.

Freddy Martin Back; Says He Is 'Too Happy'

With Freddy Martin back on the bandstand of the ornate Cocoanut Grove of the Los Angeles Ambassador Hotel, Eddy Howard and his bandmen cut out for Chicago for their Oct. 28 opening at the Aragon Ballroom.

Howard is now featured every Sunday over NBC on the Shaeffer Parade program. On Jan. 2, next year, his band will open at New York's Hotel Commodore. Then, in the spring, he and his musicians contemplate a return jaunt to Hollywood for hotel and film assignments.

Martin, meanwhile, reported he was "too, too happy" to be back in sunny California after an all-summer tour of the east. A man who likes to stay put, Freddy has rarely traveled in all his years as a maestro and it is likely that he will remain at the Cocoanut Grove, this time, for at least a solid year. No one-track operator, Freddy operates his own record shop, trains his own racehorses and conducts his own publishing business in addition to his orchestral chores.

Most of the musicians and all of the 79 vocalists that Freddy features declared that they, too, were ready to settle down on a steady location after the three-month jaunt which took them as far away as Boston.

Basie Set For L. A. Theater

Count Basie returns to California with his band next month. All set is a Nov. 19-25 booking at Sherrill Corwin's Million Dollar Theater, Los Angeles, with weekend dancing at the Meadowbrook virtually certain. In the big Basie troupe which will arrive here will be Jimmy Rushing and Bob Bailey, vocalists, a line of 12 dancing girls and such featured instrumentalists as Dickie Wells, who just rejoined the Count on trombone; Buddy Tate, Jo Jones, Walter Page, Freddie Green, Snookie Young and others long identified with Basie's rocking "jump" orchestrations.

Basie and band last visited the coast last December for an engagement at the Avodan Ballroom, which no longer features "name" attractions.

singers' stuff

PEGGY LEE says that it was with "real regret" that she found herself unable to continue as regular female soloist on Bing Crosby's Wednesday night Philco stanzas. Instead, she will be heard throughout the fall and winter months as vocalist on Jimmy Durante's program.

Peggy accepted the Durante offer after Crosby's management stalled and postponed contracts. It wasn't Bing's fault, Peggy wants it made known. But the Durante pitch, at big money, came along while Bing's brothers, sponsor, agents and others were in a hassle over plans for the new season.

Lena Horne, who has been considering a trip to Europe this fall, will draw big billing in MGM's "Words and Music" filmusical whenever the studio gets around to starting it. Ann Miller will make her Metro debut in the lead. The story is based on the success of Rodgers and Hart, songwriting team. Arthur Freed will produce it.

That big cat who shouts the blues with Jay McShann's combo is Jimmy Witherspoon, who hopped down to the Cobra Club with McShann last month after a brief run at the Hollywood Susie-Q. Jimmy's nickname is "Spoons" and he refuses to divulge how he acquired it.

Aaron (T-Bone) Walker, another shouter, has been clicking with the blues at the Last Word Club in L.A. Walker accompanies himself on guitar—but great.

Betty Rhodes will return to the airwaves on Oct. 5 as singer on the Mutual net's "Parkyakarkus" show. It's a Sunday show with Sheldon Leonard, comic, featured along with "Parky" (Harry Einstein) and Miss Rhodes.

The Andrews Sisters have taken over the Monday, Wednesday and Friday portions of Franco-American Spaghetti's "Club 15" CBS program. Margaret Whiting moved to the Tuesday and Thursday sessions as vocal soloist and Patti Clayton was dropped. Bob Crosby, the singing Modernaires and Jerry Gray's band are all heard five nights a week on the same series.

Marie Bryant finished scenes for



ALL SET?? . . . Hal Derwin straightens out the lyric to "My, How the Time Goes By" and the two pretty Hi-Liters prepare to record it with Derwin's voice and orchestra. The disc has just been released, along with Derwin's versions of "The Little Old Mill," "Kate" and "Home Is Where the Heart Is."

Photo by Otto Rothschild.

Krupa Band Set For 'Glamour' Pic

Gene Krupa's band will be featured in musical scenes of "Glamour Girl," now winding up on the Columbia lot in Hollywood. The drummer and his musicians are now heading east after finishing work before the cameras and on the sound stages.

Jack Leonard, formerly Tommy Dorsey's voice soloist, and Susan Reed, zither-plucking chanteuse, are other notables of musicdom hard at work on the same production. Sammy Katzman is producing it.

Phil Brito Eyes Films

Singer Phil Brito is expected to arrive in Filmtown in early October to make one of two pictures for Monogram for which he is contracted. Brito, a former Al Donahue baritone, last month split with his personal manager, Irving Romm. It cost him 13,500 to buy Romm's contract.

jo stafford

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KID ORY: Billy Berg's.

KAY STARR: Morocco Club.

FRANKIE MASTERS: Casino Gardens.

PETE DAILY: Hangover Club.

ERNIE FILICE: Bocage.

HERB JEFFRIES: Morocco Club.

JAN CARBER: Hotel Biltmore.

FREDDY MARTIN: Ambassador Hotel.

PEE-WEE HUNT: Palladium.

VIC DICKENSON: Down Beat.

LAWRENCE WELK: Aragon.

HARRY OWENS: Aragon.

GEECHIE SMITH: Cricket Club.

MANNY STRAND: Earl Carroll's.

CHUCK GOULD: Florentine Gardens.

D'VARCA: Morocco Club.

CONNIE JORDAN: Swanee Inn.

POISON GARDNER: Toddle House.

ABBEY BROWNE: Charley Foy's.

Up And Coming Kirk Set To Cut Records

By LEE GILLETTE

New to followers of Capitol's Americana record label, but known by hundreds of western and folk music fans as one of the most popular "on the rise" singers and songwriters, Eddie Kirk joins the Capitol Americana roster this month and will be backed on his first disc by his own homespun band.

Kirk, a native of Greeley, Colo., is the co-author of "So Round, So Firm, So Fully Packed" with Merle Travis and Cliffie Stone. He got his start in show business at 9 as a singer and tap-dancer, and has been in the folk music branch ever since. He has appeared on all the national radio shows and has made movies with Charles Starrett. Recently, he's been singing with Cliffie Stone's Barn Dance band.

It is Kirk, in fact, who vocalizes as "Sonny Kirk" on Cliffie's record of "Don't Do It, Darling." A former Navy Seabee, Eddie is married to Judy Hayden, the singer, and they live in the good old San Fernando Valley, California, that is.

Tex Williams Hits the Road

Where there's "Smoke, Smoke, Smoke" there's fire . . . at the box-office. Tex Williams will go out on a long road trip this month after a week at the Million Dollar Theater, Los Angeles, and making the trek with Tex will be such prominent showmen as Deuce Spriggins, Smokey Rogers, Cactus Soldi, Johnny Weiss and down the line, including the harpist, Paul Featherstone. Tex did a guest shot with Jack Smith via CBS and naturally, cut a raft of wax for Capitol's Americana series. You've probably heard his "Downtown Poker Club" and "That's What I Like About the West" platters by now. And more are coming!

Filling the bandstand at the Palace Barn Dance in Los Angeles while Williams tours will be Red Murrel and his western gang.

It is possible that the ailing Jack Gurthrie will be allowed by his doctors



ON DISCS . . . Eddie Kirk, popular California singer and songwriter, will make his debut on Capitol records this month. Lee Gillette tells about it—and Eddie—in the adjoining columns.

Otto Rothschild Photo.

to slip into San Francisco for two days to record for Capitol. After cutting the discs he will have to return to the Veterans' Hospital for treatment which, it is expected, will require at least a year. Jack's fans, meanwhile, might write to him at the Vets' Hospital, Livermore, Calif.

Stuff, Etc.

Charlie and Margie, known as the "Fiddlin' Linvilles," are making a legion of new friends for themselves while touring out of Nashville with Paul Howard . . . Jimmy Wakely and the Dinning Sisters did a bang-up job at the Indiana State Fair . . . Tex Ritter took his movie horse, White Flash, on his personal appearance tour to satisfy youngsters who demanded to see the equine . . . Vance Lane's KGER "Platter Parade" supports folk music in Los Angeles. And thanks to KFWB's Billy Anson for all the nice things he has to say about us all. When we write our song, we'll thank him again.

Meet the Jock!

MARVIN ELLIN, just 26, comes on like Basie's brass at WCAO in Baltimore with his "Varieties" show and airs twice every afternoon. Like most other whirlers, Marvin hustles around to nab visiting guest artists and plop them in front of his mike for gab sessions. It was in Harrisburg that he got his start, then Newark's WAAT claimed him for a time. His idea, in offering entertainment, is to offer a little of this and a lot of that. Hence the title of his two programs.

Pic For Linda Keene

Sam Coslow last month inked Linda Keene, vocalist, for a spot in Coslow's forthcoming "Champagne For Everybody" filmusical. Bob Crosby also will be seen in the production. His deal for Margaret Whiting fell through.



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The great KING COLE

Trio, among the top winners in "Jazz Groups" and "Vocal Groups"



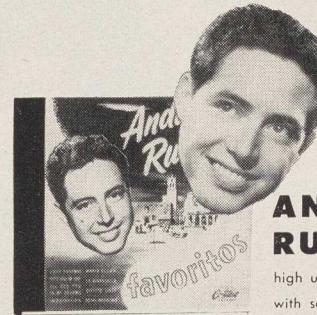
MARGARET WHITING

continues her exciting rise to fame by placing in the top four girl singers!



THE PIED PIPERS

Among the winners in "Favorite Vocal Groups"



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Ooo, That Oxydol Sparkle!



JACK SMITH may have his moods, as most mortals do, but melancholia is not one of his personality characteristics. Here, the man with the smile in his pipes makes records, in Hollywood, with vocal assistance by the Clark

sisters. A few years ago they were known as Tommy Dorsey's Sentimentalists. Jack airs five nights every week over CBS with Earl Sheldon's music for Oxydol. His program is tagged "the fastest 15 minutes in radio."